

How The Winnebago County Board Really Works

When you elect a county board member for your particular district you naturally assume that they and their vote represent your district. This is not the case! Each party, Republican or Democrat, has a caucus chairman and he directs their party on each vote. The individual board member dare not deviate from the caucus chairman's directive on that particular item under consideration. The Republican Chairman is Jim Webster and the Democrat Caucus Chairman is Phillip Johnson. I examined the Winnebago County roster and found that there are 19 Republican and 9 Democrats on the Winnebago County Board. Notices of the caucus meetings are difficult to find. If it is a closed meeting, under the Open Meetings Act, all such meetings must be tape-recorded.

Here is the interesting part regarding the recent Cannell/Puri subdivision that was just approved west of Rockton. Remember that the Rockton Township Board and the Winnebago County ZBA both unanimously rejected the Special Use and Planned Community Development, while the Winnebago County Board approved it with a 19 to 4 vote. Since Jim Webster is the Republican Caucus Chairman, (he obviously had the majority of the total votes available), his impassioned speech to the County Board for rejection was a joke. It appears that he wants our votes at the next election and his speech at the Board Meeting was designed to do just that. I'll bet that the Winnebago County Board members had a good laugh at our expense after the meeting. Remember this at your next election opportunity.

To be further enlightened, go to the internet site www/elections.il.gov and search contributions -- candidates. Some suggestions for search are Scott Christiansen For Chairman, Nicolosi, First Rockford Group, Sunil Puri, and Buckley. As they said in the Nixon trial, "follow the money".

**Dean G. Mohring
Rockton Township Trustee**

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How Influence and Relationships Work

Nicolosi Law Firm owns or has interest in Buckley Companies.

Buckley Construction, Buckley Construction and RE Development, Buckley Holdings, Buckley Partners, Buckle Title, and The Principal Group... maybe others.

Nicolosi Law Firm represents Rockton, Roscoe, Loves Park, Caledonia, special council to Rochelle and Machesney is considering special council for road development taxation. Nicolosi Lawyers to help develop land use and development plan for Winnebago Co. at a cost not to exceed \$350,000.

Harrison Township – Kerwood Watts Trustee Kerwood's mother and Sunil Puri's wife's mother are sisters. Kerwood works for Sunil Puri.

Chris Cannell – owns Roscoe Development in Partnership with Sunil Puri. Chris Cannell is a cousin of Sunil's wife.

Sunil Puri – owns First Rockford Group, Ramada Suites Rockford and Ranger Petroleum

Bharat Puri- cousin to Sunil, on Airport Board – works for Sunil

Rockford Township – Trustees Phillip Nicolosi and William Sjostrum

City of Rockford – Alderman Joe Sosnowski – works for Buckley as VP in charge of commercial Real Estate.

Oakfield Development Corp, Oakfield 750 Blackhawk LLC, Villas of Oakfield Condominiums, The Villas of Oakfield LLC, Boardertown Properties Corp – owned by Dan Bauman.